



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, SACRAMENTO**  
**CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**1325 J STREET**  
**SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA, 95814-2922**

Environmental Resources Branch

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

The draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Isabella Lake Dam Safety Modification Project is enclosed for your review. This dam safety modification project involves the remediation of seismic, seepage, and hydrologic dam safety concerns at the Isabella Lake Main and Auxiliary Dams. The lake (reservoir) and the dams are features of the Isabella Dam Project (Project), completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) in 1953. Isabella Lake is located on the Kern River approximately 45 miles northeast of Bakersfield, Kern County, California.

Preparation of the draft EIS has been a cooperative effort between the Corps' Sacramento District, and the U.S. Forest Service, Sequoia National Forest. The draft identifies, evaluates, and documents the environmental effects of an array of remediation alternatives needed to prevent loss of life, extensive downstream damage, functional loss of the Project, and loss of all Project benefits. Implementation of this large, complex remediation project includes altering the dams and spillway, constructing new facilities, and conducting numerous support actions over a multi-year construction period. This draft EIS helps to ensure that implementation of this project can be achieved with the fewest possible effects.

The draft EIS also provides the opportunity for public and agency information, involvement, and comment. During the 45-day public review period, the Corps will host three public meetings to discuss the status of the remediation project, present the results of the draft EIS, and encourage public questions and comments on the project. The locations and times for these meetings are as follows:

Kernville, CA  
April 17, 2012  
Odd Fellows Hall  
50 Tobias Street  
Kernville, CA  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Lake Isabella, CA  
April 18, 2012  
Kern River Valley Senior Center  
6405 Lake Isabella Boulevard  
Lake Isabella, CA  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Bakersfield, CA  
April 19, 2012  
Kern County Board of Supervisors  
1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
Bakersfield, CA  
6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.


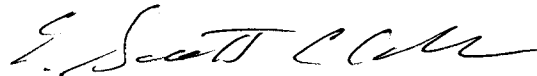
Copies of the draft EIS are also available online at the Sacramento District's website (<http://www.spk.usace.army.mil>) or for viewing at the following locations:

- Beale Memorial Library, 701 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301
- Southwest Branch Library, 8301 Ming Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93311
- Ridgecrest Branch Library, 131 East Las Flores Avenue, Ridgecrest, CA 93501
- Lake Isabella Public Library, 7054 Lake Isabella Blvd., Lake Isabella, CA 93240
- U.S. Forest Service, Sequoia National Forest, Forest Supervisor's Office, 1839 South Newcomb Street, Porterville, CA 93257

- U.S. Forest Service, Sequoia National Forest, Kern River Ranger District, Kernville Office, 105 Whitney Road, Kernville, CA 93238
- U.S. Forest Service, Sequoia National Forest, Kern River Ranger District, Lake Isabella Office, 4875 Ponderosa Drive, Lake Isabella, CA 93240

The public review period for this draft EIS will extend from March 23 to May 7, 2012. All comments received on this draft document will be considered and incorporated into the final EIS, as appropriate. Specific responses to the comments will be included in a Comments and Responses appendix in the final EIS. Please send any comments to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, Attn: Mr. Tyler Stalker, Public Affairs Specialist, 1325 J Street, Sacramento, California 95814. If you have any questions, Mr. Stalker may be reached at (916) 557- 5107 or by e-mail at: [isabella@usace.army.mil](mailto:isabella@usace.army.mil).

Sincerely,



Alicia E. Kirchner  
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure